

Approved June 14, 2011

**Rockville Environment Commission
Minutes of the Meeting of Tuesday, May 10, 2011
At the Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue**

Attendance

Commissioners: John Becker, Steve Cardon, Julie Palakovich-Carr, Christine Davidson-McCord, Kris Dighe, Anne Goodman and David Zbarsky.

Absent: Beri Kravitz and Donna Vincent Roa

Guests: Mark Charles, City of Rockville Environmental Management

Mark Kibiloski, City of Rockville Parks and Facilities

Alicia Hosmer, Resident, Commissioner Candidate

Tina Carter, Resident, Commissioner Candidate

Meeting Commencement

The meeting convened at 7:30 pm by Chair Dighe

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the April 12, 2011 meeting were reviewed. Palakovich-Carr moved approval and Cardon seconded. The Commission approved the minutes 7-0-0.

Meet Environment Commissioner Candidates

The Commission discussed the interests and qualifications of two candidates for current Commissioner vacancies: Alicia Hosmer and Tina Carter. Additional candidates are expected to attend the June Commission meeting.

Deer Management Task Force

An extensive report was made by Commissioner Davidson-McCord and Mark Kibiloski, followed by a detailed discussion of the entire Commission. The current City policy on deer management is a *live and let live* approach. The task force has looked at the current deer population and traffic incident rate and concluded that more specific management action is needed. The group has developed seven recommendations that are currently set forth on the City's webpage. These will be subject to public comment, then transmitted to the Park Board and ultimately to the Mayor and Council.

The task force would like the Commission to consider these recommendations between now and its June meeting and endorse or endorse with comment at that time.

Hometown Holidays Planning

The Commission will participate in Hometown Holidays on Saturday May 28, from 1-5 pm. The set up crew should arrive no later than 12:30 and the take down crew should plan to stay until 5:30. The Commission decided to organize participation into 2 shifts (12:30-3:00 and 3:00-5:30). The Commission will be emphasizing recycling and energy

efficiency tips (as well as recruiting new members for the Commission and its committees). We will also be giving away recycling magnets and paper lawn bags.

Committee Reports

Watershed Protection

- Palakovich-Carr reported on the Maryvale stream clean up held on Saturday, April 30. Eight (8) bags of trash were collected even though the same stream segment had been cleaned only 3 weeks earlier.
- The Committee is working with City staff to complete the Draft Watershed Assessment of Cabin John Creek. Environmental Management is targeting July 11, 2011 for getting the final report to the Mayor and Council for approval.

Outreach and Education

- The Committee did not meet in April.
- It was suggested that City staff not disclose the photographers when asking Commissioners to evaluate the photos in the annual photo contest.

Sustainable Development and Energy

- The Committee did not meet in April.
- There was a brief discussion of the future purpose and mission of this Committee. Commissioners were asked to consider whether it should focus on:
 - Developing position papers on special issues and projects
 - Tackle residential energy efficiency and recycling issues
 - Promote Rockville participation in EPA's Green Power Challenge or
 - Go on hiatus until the City initiates amendments to the green building ordinanceThe Commission will re-examine this issue at its June meeting

Strategic Retreat

Commissioners were asked if they were interested in participating in a strategic retreat this fall and there was general support to do so. The event would be facilitated and held on a Saturday at the Glenview Mansion. A date will be set at the June meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm by unanimous acclamation.

Next Commission Meeting

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 14, 2011 at 7:30 pm** at **Rockville's City Hall, 111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, 20850**